

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives the most complete and reliable information that will benefit the trade union movement.

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NEW EPOCH IN TRADE UNION MOVEMENT

Organized labor's nation-wide organizing campaign will be an epoch in the trade union movement.

The plan includes the United States and Canada. Nothing like it was ever before attempted on such an extensive scale.

It will awaken many workers to the live, throbbing organized labor movement.

Trade unionism is not an institution that should be accepted in a matter-of-fact way. It is not a drifting, purposeless thing that occasionally raises wages and objects to wrong.

The trade union has all the warmth and glow of life. It develops and expands with the growth, increasing intelligence and zeal of its members.

Workers should arouse themselves to its

possibilities. They should be imbued with the missionary spirit and carry the message to those who are unorganized.

The labor campaign, in conjunction with the organizing activity, is significant.

It is a certificate of sanitation, living wages and reasonable hours.

These in themselves are of measureless value to the workers, but the labor means more—it vouches for right relations with employers.

It guarantees that the employer favors democracy in industry—that he accepts the workers' right to organize and deal collectively with those who employ them.

Workers will secure justice and respect

Nation's Homes Poorly Built; Public Gouged by Speculators

New York, May 16.—Nineteen-tenths of the building in this country is done by speculators who have no pride in their work and most houses have to be reconstructed in 12 years, according to Walter Stabler, controller of the Metropolitan life insurance company, in an address to the American construction council.

These builders put up houses that are difficult to keep warm. The only way to make them build decent houses, said Mr. Stabler, is to subject them to control by the people from whom they borrow money.

It would be a good idea to make them pay for the cost of the better houses than any other agency because they could withhold loans from enterprises that failed to meet their standards. The plan has already been tried successfully by his company, which has architects and building experts supervise construction work, said Mr. Stabler.

A better building campaign would be conducted, issue "certificates of character" to builders who did their work properly. This certificate would reward for "high class" houses, and would be "Class A" houses, and would be

JUST A FABLE

Once upon a time a seaman, through the efforts of his union, was paid a raise in his wages. He received \$200 per month, \$1 per hour for overtime.

Then he said to himself: "The union can get me any higher wages, and I don't like the way the union is run. I will go away, so why continue to pay dues?"

Time passed and the inevitable happened. His wages were dropped down to \$100 per month, at \$5 per month, he finally decided to leave the union.

He was reinstated and the long process to regain his higher wages started all over again. At the next meeting, the employer had waded far and wide, and the lowest bid of the disgruntled one were \$100 per month.

And so, said 2,500 years ago: "A fable is forced upon the union to once more punish the prodigal son, for he has become a lost indeed."—Seamen's Journal.

GOODS FOR STATE USE TO BE MADE IN PRISONS

Washington, May 16.—The state-use convict labor system as a remedy for the evils of contract labor was endorsed by the A. F. of L. executive council, at its meeting at A. F. of L. headquarters.

The state-use system provides that all products made in state penal institutions shall be used exclusively by the state and its political subdivisions. None of these products can be placed on the market. A model bill for the general establishment of the system was introduced by the A. F. of L. executive council.

The council reaffirmed numerous resolutions on the subject of contract labor. It declared that contract labor is unjust to wage earners and their employers, and that the state should accept the term coined by union opponents, and then easily assumes the position that "the state is against the public interest."

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JAPS CAN'T OWN LAND

Tallahassee, Fla., May 16.—A resolution calling for an amendment to the state constitution to exclude Japanese from ownership of land in Florida was adopted by the Florida House of Representatives.

BARBERS RENEW CONTRACTS

Washington, May 16.—Barbers' union No. 4 has renewed its contract with the National Barbers' Association.

WORKERS LURED TO IOWA

Chicago, May 16.—Workers are being lured to Iowa by promises of high wages and good working conditions.

Seamen Reject 'Tip' as Reward For Ship Subsidy Support

Washington, May 16.—"We respectfully beg of you to save us from the crowding disgrace of being known and considered 'tipsters' is the closing paragraph of a letter to the President, signed by Andrew Furuseth, president of the International Seamen's union, on the proposed bonus.

The bonus suggestion was made by T. V. O'Connor, chairman of the United States Shipping board. President Furuseth declared that his proposal, which is intended to assist the merchant marine, was included in the bill for the purpose of assisting the merchant marine.

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OHIO SUPREME COURT LIVES 100 YEARS AGO

Columbus, Ohio, May 16.—Just 100 years ago, during a great storm and high tide in England, Mrs. Partington attempted to sweep back the Atlantic ocean with a broom.

The Ohio state supreme court has duplicated this old lady's effort by its decision that the union shop contract is illegal.

The case came up from Cleveland. The street car company of that city and its employees submitted to the Ohio supreme court. Dissatisfied with the award the company appealed to the courts, which set aside the arbitration award.

TELEPHONE OPERATORS DEFEAT WIRE MONOPOLY

Boston, May 16.—The record made by organized telephone girls justifies the belief that the wire monopoly is being defeated.

When the power arrayed against them is considered, no trade unionists are more courageous than the telephone operators, declared Miss O'Connor, president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

The telephone operators were the first to resist the wire monopoly. They have defeated it in many places.

ALIEN LAND LAW UPHOLD

Washington, May 16.—The California land law was upheld by the United States supreme court.

PLAYGROUNDS FAVORED

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SUBSIDY IN NEW FORM OPPOSED BY WORKERS

Washington, May 16.—The A. F. of L. executive council has declared its opposition to subsidizing ship owners by the government.

The reason advanced for the wage subsidy, said President Furuseth, "is the difference between the wages of foreign and American seamen. The cause for such differential is not far to seek."

"Apparently the idea of the sponsors of the subsidy is that it will eliminate the competition of labor. But this is not true. Labor stands where it did in 1880, and it will continue to stand where it is today."

This principle was followed in successfully opposing ship subsidies in 1889, 1906 and 1922.

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LABOR'S EDUCATIONAL PLAN IS BEING FAVORED BY UNIONS

Washington, May 16.—Trade unions are pledging financial and moral support to the union label campaign that will be launched by the organized labor movement.

The suggestion for this campaign was made to the A. F. of L. executive council by the union label trades department of the A. F. of L. At a meeting with officers of that department and representatives of national and international affiliates, this proposal, together with an organizing campaign, was endorsed.

Five moving picture units and lecturers will visit every section of the United States and Canada. With picture and story the principles of organized labor and the purpose of the union label will be told.

Organizers of the national and international unions and the A. F. of L. will continue the work of organization and education in localities where these meetings are held.

In large industrial centers the pictures will be shown in various sections of these localities and organizers will supplement this education with meetings of the unorganized. Trade union talks will be made at the noon hour in the vicinity of non-union plants.

COMPANY "UNION" IS AGAIN EXPOSED

St. Louis, Mo., May 16.—The Pennsylvania railroad company "union" is again exposed by President Manion in a letter to members of the late organization employed on the Pennsylvania system.

In his letter President Manion includes excerpts from the record of the last meeting of the company "union," and shows how the company has been using the union to its own advantage.

The alleged "union" met the management, and the latter asked for complete data on the questions of the union. This was secured but no further meeting was held.

RECLAMATION OF LAND DOESN'T ATTRACT SETTLERS

Washington, May 16.—Following a survey of reclamation projects in the country, the Interior department issued a gloomy statement on the efforts of congress to reclaim vast land areas.

CHEAPER MORTGAGE RATE WILL LOWER HOUSE RENTS

Albany, N. Y., May 16.—If interest rates were lowered, cheaper house rents would follow, says a housing and mortgage expert.

GUN MAN GETS STAY

Charleston, W. Va., May 16.—Denise Logan, bootlegger and former sheriff of Logan county, has secured a stay of execution to permit an appeal to the United States supreme court.

BANKING INTERESTS SECRETLY LOOT ROAD

Washington, May 16.—"If apparently authentic reports of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad receivership are true, it is another example of how American industries are at the mercy of large bankers," said United States Senator Charles McNary.

The cause of the receivership was the failure of the road to meet \$47,000,000 in bonds that were nearly due. Bondholders and stockholders are alarmed that there would be no trouble in refunding these bonds.

This is a real estate assumption, said Senator McNary, "in view of the fact that the road has received hundreds of millions of dollars' credit to Europe."

The best illustration I get on the subject is that the receivership was unnecessary, that it had large assets of timber and land in value at \$75,000,000 to \$75,000,000.

I am in favor of government ownership of railroads, but the majority of the American people are opposed to it at the present time. Therefore, when it comes to congress convening, I intend to introduce a bill for the protection of bondholders and stockholders of the railroads, who are the real owners of these properties.

"This bill will provide that no board of directors can throw a railroad into the hands of a receiver without first giving the bond and stockholders an opportunity to form a committee for the protection of their property. I am confident that this bill will not be offered the Milwaukee owners."

"This bill will also provide for the names of the stock and bondholders will be filed with the interstate commerce commission. It will give the owners to own and control their property, instead of letting it be being managed and controlled, as in the past, by large banking interests."

FOOLED BY BABY TALK

St. Paul, Minn., May 16.—On the floor of the organized labor in this city are acknowledging that they have been fooled by the baby talk of the owners to own and control their property, instead of letting it be being managed and controlled, as in the past, by large banking interests."

FEDERAL STRONGHOLD INVADED BY MINERS

Charleston, W. Va., May 16.—The United Mine Workers are arranging to invade Logan county, one of America's feudalistic strongholds.

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COLORADO AWAKE

Denver, May 16.—Trade unionists in this state are among the first to join in the nation-wide trade union educational campaign.

PRINTERS GET NEW CONTRACT

Washington, May 16.—The printers' union has secured a new contract with the United States government.

FAVOR FREE TEXT BOOKS

Jackson, Tenn., May 16.—The state education of labor movement and organized labor and sympathizers to start state-wide activities for free text books. This system is operative in the larger cities of Tennessee.

The resolution declared that "expensive text books are a burden on the poor and are both economical and practical."

AGITATE!
EDUCATE!
ORGANIZE!



WHOLE NO. 736.